

# InChI

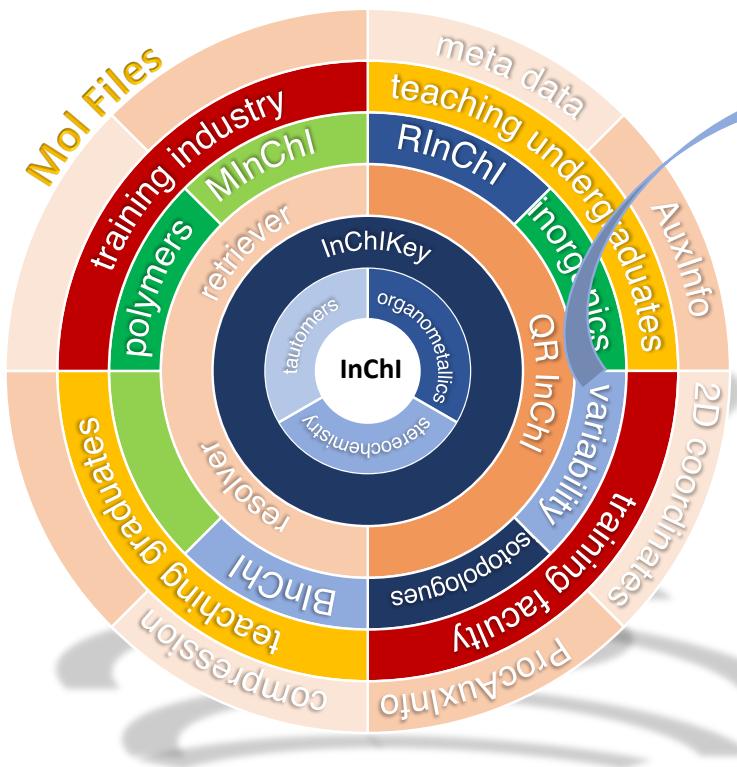
## Markush and Variability

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Jonathan M Goodman

*Working group:*  
*Gerd Blanke, István Öri, Anthony Baston*

# Variable Structures in the InChI Ecosystem



**Canonical Identifier for Variability**  
(Markush)

VInChI

Compact  
identifier for  
multiple  
structures

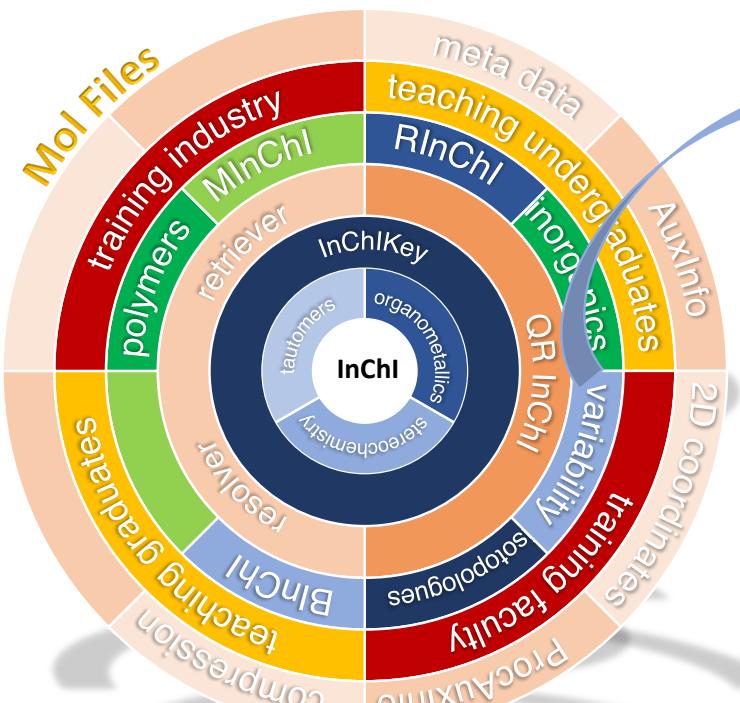
Generic Reactions

Rapid  
manipulation of  
large groups of  
molecules

Extended  
Standard InChI?

Encoding of non-molecular  
Markush information

# Variable Structure Working Group



## *Open Meeting of the Working Group*

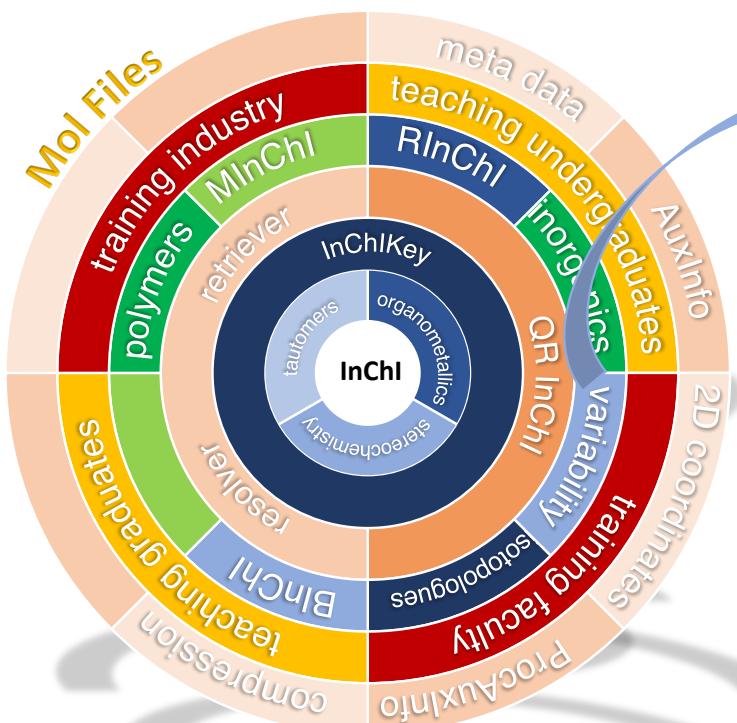
VInChI

5 pm (UK)  
April 12<sup>th</sup>

Contact:

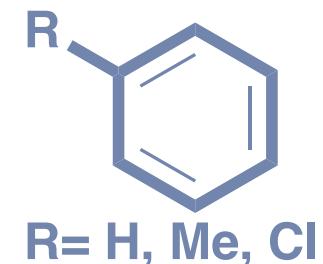
[jonathan@inchi-trust.org](mailto:jonathan@inchi-trust.org)  
[www-jmg.ch.cam.ac.uk/inchi](http://www-jmg.ch.cam.ac.uk/inchi)

# Two **Canonical** Variable Structure Challenges:



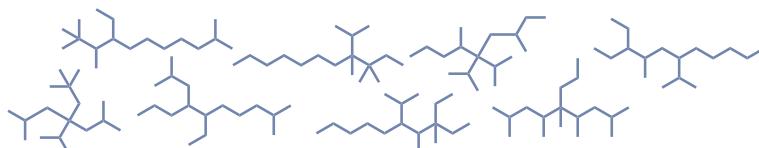
*Can we encode Markush-like structures as an InChI?*

VInChI



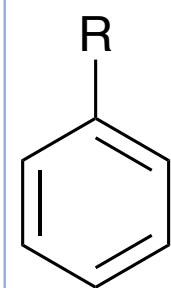
R= H, Me, Cl

*Can we encode a group of molecules as an InChI?*



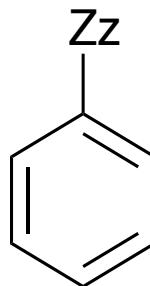
# Simple Variability: *MarkInChI*

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R = H, Cl, Me

Pseudo-element introduced in InChI v1.06

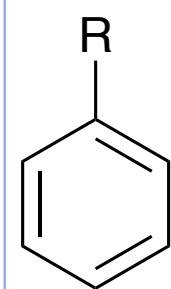


InChI=1B/C6H5Zz/c7-6-4-2-1-3-5-6/h1-5H

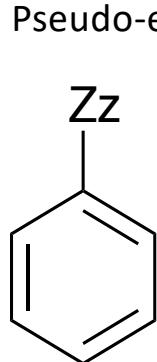
A new section lists options for the pseudo-element, in alphabetical order, separated by “!”

MarkInChI=1B/C6H5Zz/c7-6-4-2-1-3-5-6/h1-5H<>C!Cl!H

# Simple Variability: *MarkInChI*



R = H, Cl, Me



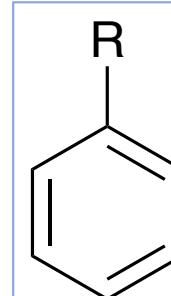
Pseudo-element introduced in InChI v1.06

InChI=1B/C6H5Zz/c7-6-4-2-1-3-5-6/h1-5H

A new section lists options for the pseudo-element, in alphabetical order, separated by “!”

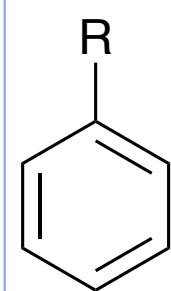
MarkInChI=1B/C6H5Zz/c7-6-4-2-1-3-5-6/h1-5H<>C!Cl!H

MarkInChI=1B/C6H5Zz/c7-6-4-2-1-3-5-6/h1-5H  
<>C!C2H5Zz/c1-2-3/h2H2,1H3!C3H7Zz/c1-2-3-4/h2-3H2,1H3



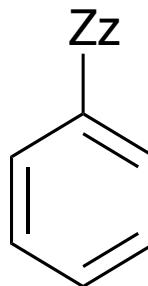
R = Me, Et, Pr

# Simple Variability: *MarkInChI*



R = H, Cl, Me

Pseudo-element introduced in InChI v1.06

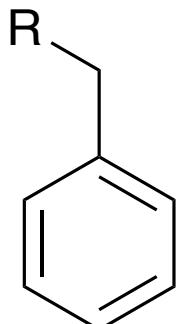


InChI=1B/C6H5Zz/c7-6-4-2-1-3-5-6/h1-5H

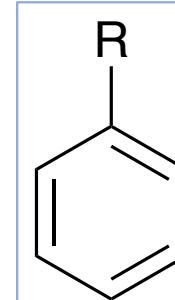
A new section lists options for the pseudo-element, in alphabetical order, separated by "!"

MarkInChI=1B/C6H5Zz/c7-6-4-2-1-3-5-6/h1-5H<>C!Cl!H

MarkInChI=1B/C6H5Zz/c7-6-4-2-1-3-5-6/h1-5H  
<>C!C2H5Zz/c1-2-3/h2H2,1H3!C3H7Zz/c1-2-3-4/h2-3H2,1H3



R = H, Me, Et



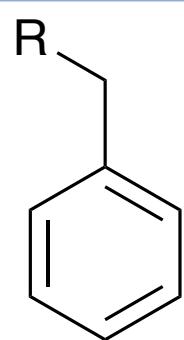
R = Me, Et, Pr

MarkInChI=1B/C7H7Zz/c8-6-7-4-2-1-3-5-7/h1-5H,6H2  
<>H!C!C2H5Zz/c1-2-3/h2H2,1H3

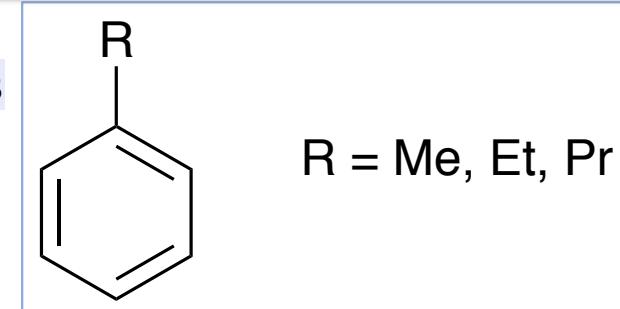
## Simple Variability: *MarkInChI*

*Which is the  
canonical *MarkInChI*?*

MarkInChI=1B/C6H5Zz/c7-6-4-2-1-3-5-6/h1-5H  
<>C!C2H5Zz/c1-2-3/h2H2,1H3!C3H7Zz/c1-2-3-4/h2-3H2,1H3



R = H, Me, Et

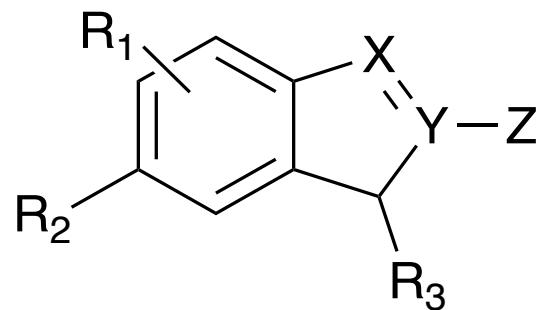


R = Me, Et, Pr

MarkInChI=1B/C7H7Zz/c8-6-7-4-2-1-3-5-7/h1-5H,6H2  
<>H!C!C2H5Zz/c1-2-3/h2H2,1H3

## More Complex Variability

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$R_1 = H, Me$

128 distinct structures

$R_2 = Me, Et, Pr, Bu$

$R_3 = Ph, toyl$

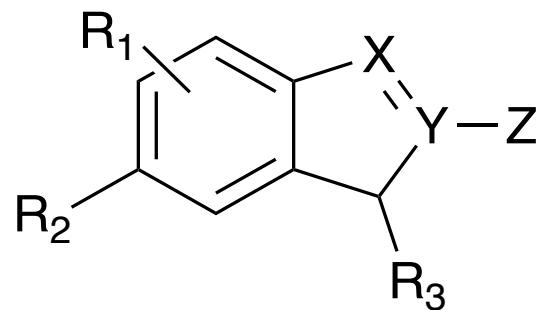
$X = N, CH$

$Y = C, N^+$

$Z = Cl, CH_2Cl$

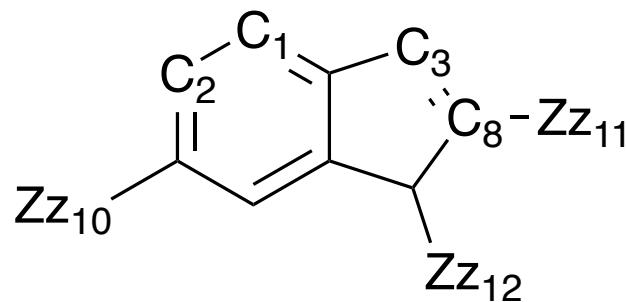
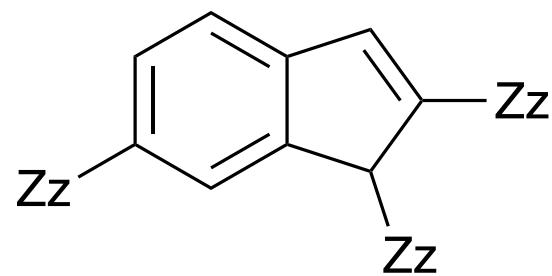
# More Complex Variability

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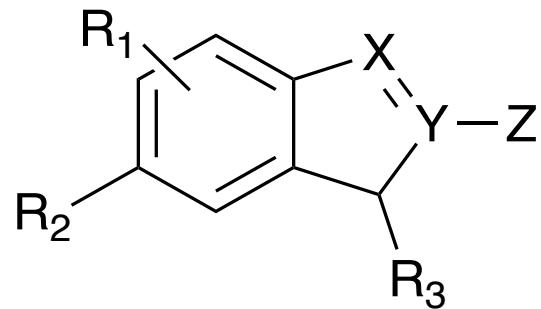


$R_1 = H, Me$   
 $R_2 = Me, Et, Pr, Bu$   
 $R_3 = Ph, toyl$   
 $X = N, CH$   
 $Y = C, N^+$   
 $Z = Cl, CH_2Cl$

128 distinct structures



# More Complex Variability



$R_1 = H, Me$

128 distinct structures

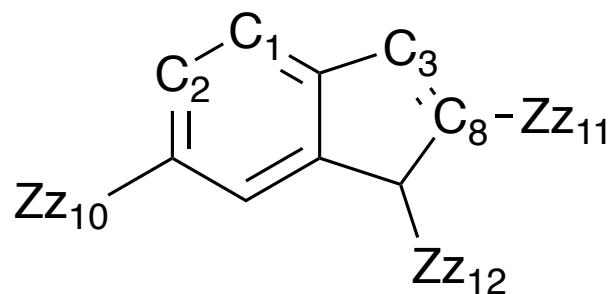
$R_2 = Me, Et, Pr, Bu$

$R_3 = Ph, toyl$

$X = N, CH$

$Y = C, N^+$

$Z = Cl, CH_2Cl$



MarkInChI=1B/C9H5Zz3/c10-6-2-1-5-3-8(11)9(12)7(5)4-6/h1-4,9H

<>C!C2H5Zz/c1-2-3/h2H2,1H3!C3H7Zz/c1-2-3-4/h2-3H2,1H3

!C4H9Zz/c1-2-3-4-5/h2-4H2,1H3

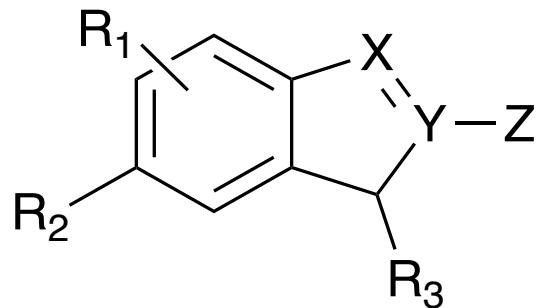
<>CH2ClZz/c2-1-3/h1H2!Cl

<>C6H5Zz/c7-6-4-2-1-3-5-6/h1-5H!C7H7Zz/c1-6-2-4-7(8)5-3-6/h2-5H,1H3

<>3-C!N<>8-C!N+<>1H,2H-C!H

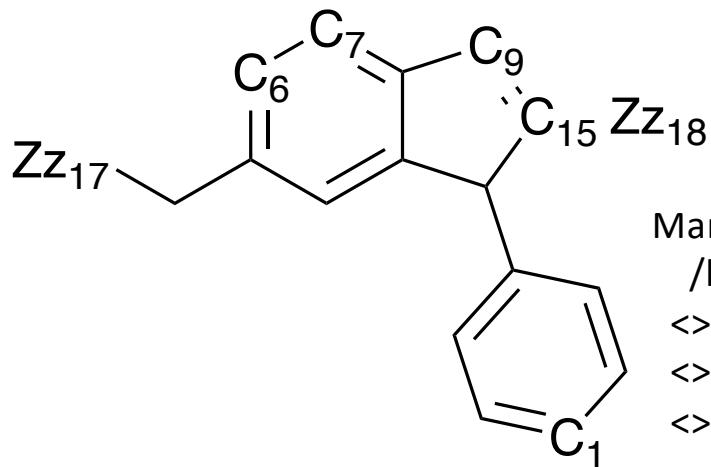
# More Complex Variability

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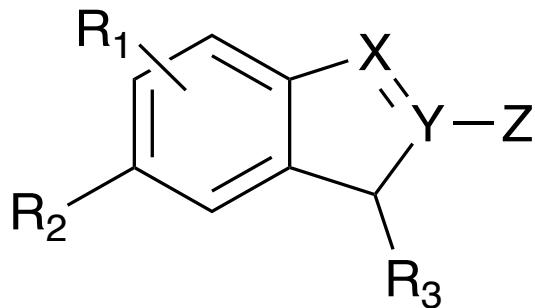
$R_1 = H, Me$   
 $R_2 = Me, Et, Pr, Bu$   
 $R_3 = Ph, toyl$   
 $X = N, CH$   
 $Y = C, N^+$   
 $Z = Cl, CH_2Cl$

128 distinct structures



MarkInChI=1B/C16H12ZZ2/c17-10-11-6-7-13-9-15(18)16(14(13)8-11)12-4-2-1-3-5-12  
/h1-9,16H,10H2  
<>H!C!C2H5ZZ/c1-2-3/h2H2,1H3!C3H7ZZ/c1-2-3-4/h2-3H2,1H3  
<>CH2ClZZ/c2-1-3/h1H2!Cl  
<>9-C!N<>15-C!N+<>1H-C!H<>6H,7H-C!H

# More Complex Variability

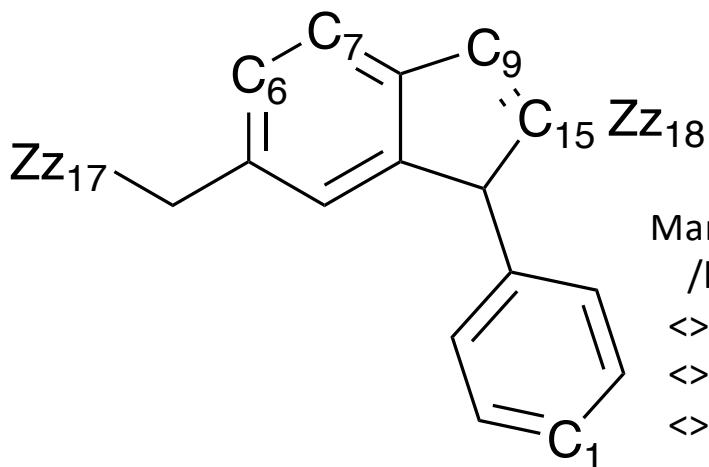


$R_1 = H, Me$   
 $R_2 = Me, Et, Pr, Bu$   
 $R_3 = Ph, tolyl$   
 $X = N, CH$   
 $Y = C, N+$   
 $Z = Cl, CH_2Cl$

128 distinct structures

Do not need to use Zz  
– can just use the  
existing atom  
numbers

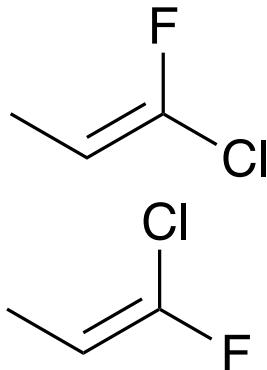
But the use of Zz  
makes the  
intentions of the  
writer clearer



MarkInChI=1B/C16H12Zz2/c17-10-11-6-7-13-9-15(18)16(14(13)8-11)12-4-2-1-3-5-12/h1-9,16H,10H2<>H!C!C2H5Zz/c1-2-3/h2H2,1H3!C3H7Zz/c1-2-3-4/h2-3H2,1H3<>CH2ClZz/c2-1-3/h1H2!Cl<>9-C!N<>15-C!N+<>1H-C!H<>6H,7H-C!H

## Problem: different Zz create stereochemistry

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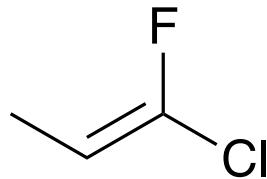


InChI=1S/C3H4ClF/c1-2-3(4)5/h2H,1H3/b3-2-

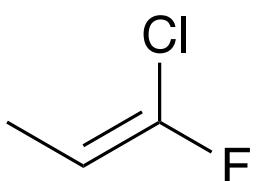
InChI=1S/C3H4ClF/c1-2-3(4)5/h2H,1H3/b3-2+

## Problem: different Zz create stereochemistry

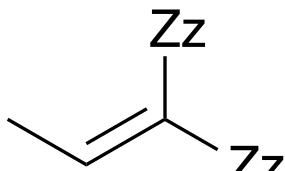
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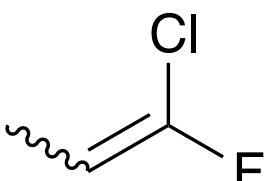
InChI=1S/C3H4ClF/c1-2-3(4)5/h2H,1H3/b3-2-



InChI=1S/C3H4ClF/c1-2-3(4)5/h2H,1H3/b3-2+



InChI=1B/C3H4Zz2/c1-2-3(4)5/h2H,1H3

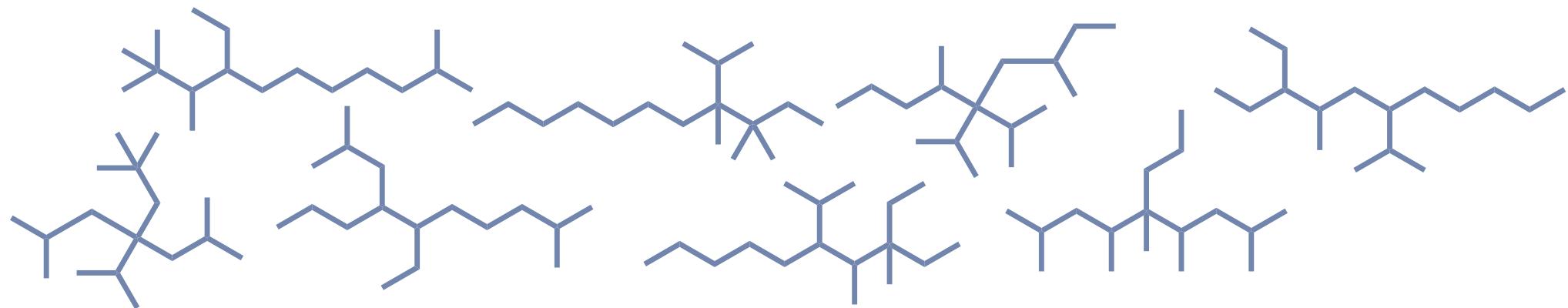


InChI=1B/C3H4Zz2/c1-2-3(4)5/h2H,1H3<>Cl!F<>Cl!F

# Variable InChI for Isomeric Alkanes (Anthony Baston)

- Input InChI:

```
InChI=1S/C17H36/c1-13(2)10-17(15(5)6,11-14(3)4)12-16(7,8)9/h13-15H,10-12H2,1-9H3
InChI=1S/C17H36/c1-7-10-11-12-17(14(4)5)13-15(6)16(8-2)9-3/h14-17H,7-13H2,1-6H3
InChI=1S/C17H36/c1-7-10-17(13-15(5)6)16(8-2)12-9-11-14(3)4/h14-17H,7-13H2,1-6H3
InChI=1S/C17H36/c1-8-10-11-12-13-14-17(7,15(3)4)16(5,6)9-2/h15H,8-14H2,1-7H3
InChI=1S/C17H36/c1-8-11-12-13-16(14(4)5)15(6)17(7,9-2)10-3/h14-16H,8-13H2,1-7H3
InChI=1S/C17H36/c1-8-16(15(4)17(5,6)7)13-11-9-10-12-14(2)3/h14-16H,8-13H2,1-7H3
InChI=1S/C17H36/c1-9-10-17(8,15(6)11-13(2)3)16(7)12-14(4)5/h13-16H,9-12H2,1-8H3
InChI=1S/C17H36/c1-9-11-16(8)17(13(3)4,14(5)6)12-15(7)10-2/h13-16H,9-12H2,1-8H3
```



# Variable InChI for Isomeric Alkanes (Anthony Baston)

- **Input InChI:**

```
InChI=1S/C17H36/c1-13(2)10-17(15(5)6,11-14(3)4)12-16(7,8)9/h13-15H,10-12H2,1-9H3
InChI=1S/C17H36/c1-7-10-11-12-17(14(4)5)13-15(6)16(8-2)9-3/h14-17H,7-13H2,1-6H3
InChI=1S/C17H36/c1-7-10-17(13-15(5)6)16(8-2)12-9-11-14(3)4/h14-17H,7-13H2,1-6H3
InChI=1S/C17H36/c1-8-10-11-12-13-14-17(7,15(3)4)16(5,6)9-2/h15H,8-14H2,1-7H3
InChI=1S/C17H36/c1-8-11-12-13-16(14(4)5)15(6)17(7,9-2)10-3/h14-16H,8-13H2,1-7H3
InChI=1S/C17H36/c1-8-16(15(4)17(5,6)7)13-11-9-10-12-14(2)3/h14-16H,8-13H2,1-7H3
InChI=1S/C17H36/c1-9-10-17(8,15(6)11-13(2)3)16(7)12-14(4)5/h13-16H,9-12H2,1-8H3
InChI=1S/C17H36/c1-9-11-16(8)17(13(3)4,14(5)6)12-15(7)10-2/h13-16H,9-12H2,1-8H3
```

- **VInChI:**

```
VInChI=1S/C17H36/c1-13(2)10-17(15(5)6,11-14(3)4)12-16(7,8)9/h13-15H,10-12H2,1-9H3
/pi-c(1+2+3+7;4+9+10+11-c(5+8+15;14+2+14-
c(2+8+9+12;12+4+6+1)c(1+3+4+5;5+2+15+7)c(3+7+7+10;15+6+4+4)c(1+4+7;7+6+15)c(1+3+6
;8+1+1)))
```

- A compact, canonical representation
- The length of the VInChI is a measure of diversity

# Markush InChI

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- Things to do:
  - Library of standard abbreviations: R, Ar, X, etc
  - Create a tool to visualize a Markush InChI
  - Create a tool to generate Markush InChI
    - By hand ; from molfile ; from a list of structures ; from other Markush InChI
  - Tools to manipulate Markush InChI (ideally without enumeration)
    - Structure searching within a Markush InChI
    - What do two Markush InChI have in common?
    - Search a database for members of a Markush InChI
  - Generic reactions (RInChI)
  - Compare two Markush InChI representations of the same system and choose the better one
  - Canonicalisation of Markush InChI

# Summary: Markush and Variable InChI

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- A framework is been defined, based on InChI v1.06
  - Canonicalisation and stereodifferentiation under examination
  - Creating VInChI: provide a list of InChI and VInChI
  - Creating MarkInChI: *currently hand-crafted by artisans*
- 
- Optimisation needed: what best fits use-cases?
  - Working group: 5 pm (UK), April 12th

# InChI

## Markush and Variability

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**Working group: 5 pm (UK), April 12th**

*Jonathan M Goodman, Gerd Blanke,  
István Öri, Anthony Baston*

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